

# Close to nature forest management



**ELO General assembly in Luxembourg  
16th june 2015**

**Serge Reinardt**

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# Some background informations on PROSILVA Establishment

## Historical snapshot on ProSilva Europe

From the 1960s to the 1980s there were regular meetings, more or less informal, of the silvicultural chairs from the Universities of Göttingen, Munich, Zürich – and from time to time from Nancy.

At that time these universities already advocated "close-to-nature" silvics and explored different ways of implementing this form of forest management, inspired by virgin forest dynamics.

During this time period a group of forest scientists, NVA, on the basis of Alfred Möller's research, supported the implementation of "Continuous Close-to-Nature" Forest management.

ProSilva was founded at Sarajevo, BiH, Sarajevo today, in Slovenia, September 20th 1989. Today 26 European countries are members of ProSilva Europe.



## Alfred Möller (1860-1922)

Alfred Möller studied in Eisenack and did his PhD in Altona. He is recognized as the initiator of the "continuous-close-to-nature" movement and the mentor of close-to-nature forestry.

In his approach, the forest vegetation must be a self-organized. Möller considered the harvested stand in a production forest, only as a crop and the forest in its entirety as a productive organism, to be continuously protected and cultivated.

Accordingly, he also, for example, in the preface of his publication "The continuous forest care approach" / „To Tsch with long management, mainly focused on „wood production“ and to orientate silviculture not anymore along the principles of the „older school managing arable land“, e. g. agricultural farming.



## Continuous Close-to-Nature Forest management

The CCoN policy is based on a holistic approach to sustainability, covering the key results of forest management to ensure the long-term management. A sustainable forest ecosystem is the proper basis of sustainable sustainability.

Forest provides 4 categories of benefits for society:

- Conservation of ecosystems
- Protection of soil and climate
- Production of timber and other products
- Recreation, amenity and cultural aspects



## Historical snapshot on ProSilva Europe

From the 1960s to the 1980s there were regular meetings, more or less informal, of the silvicultural chairs from the Universities of Ljubljana, Munich, Zürich - and from time to time from Nancy.

At that time these universities already advocated "Close-to-Nature" ideas and explored different ways of implementing this form of forest management inspired by virgin forest dynamics.

During the same period a group of forest practitioners ANW, in the wake of Alfred Möller's movement, supported the implementation of "Continuous Close-to-Nature" Forest management.

Prosilva was founded at Robanov Kot, Savinja valley, in **Slovenia, September 22th 1989**. Today **26 european Countrys** are members of ProSilva Europe.



## Alfred Möller (1860–1922)

Alfred Möller studied in Eberswalde and did his PhD in Münster. He is recognised as the initiator of the "continuous-forest-cover" movement and the mentor of close-to-nature forestry.

His approach: **the forest organism must be a self-organisation!**

Möller considered the harvested wood in a production forest **only as a crop and the forest in its entirety as a productive organism, to be continuously protected and cultivated.**

Accordingly to this he required in the preface of his publication:

**"The continuous-forest-cover approach":**

./..to finish with forest management entirely focused on **"wood-production"** and to orientate silviculture not anymore along the principles of the "older sister managing arable land", e. g. agricultural farming.





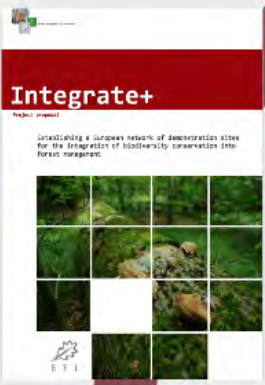
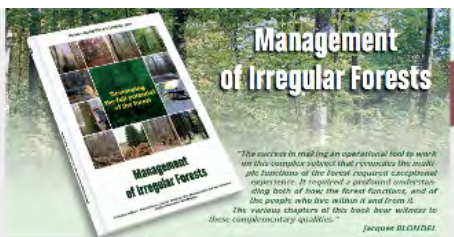


# ProSilva Luxembourg

Set up in Luxembourg, **20. October 2010**. Today around 60 **forest managers, scientists and forest owners** are member of ProSilva Luxembourg

## Main objectives of ProSilva Luxembourg:

- Exchange of informations within regional working groups
- Cooperation with educational an scientific institutions, and other bodies
- Meetings and excursions to demonstration forests
- Establishment of demonstration forests to be regarded as exemplary forests

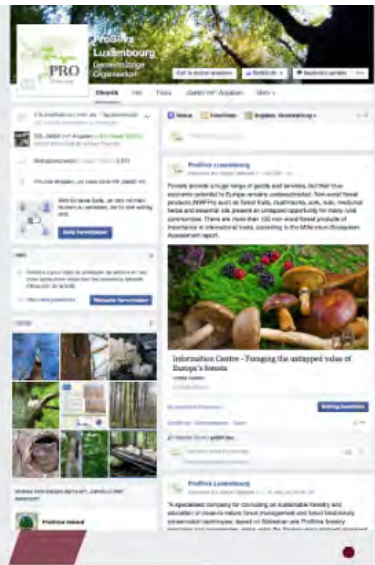


# Network & partners

- ProSilva Europe
- Forêt wallonne
- Association futaie irrégulière (AFI)
- European forest institute (EFI)
- ProSilva Wallonie
- ANW Deutschland
- ANW (Saarland & Rheinland-Pfalz)
- ANF
- ONF Alsace
- ProSilva France
- FAUN (Waldnaturschutz integrativ)







**PRO SILVA Lëtzebuerg**  
Nationale Wälderwirtschaft (NATFOR)

**Grundsätze und Empfehlungen von Pro Silva Luxembourg**

Die Silva Luxemburg, der luxemburgische Zweig dieser internationalen Organisation, hat unter Berücksichtigung der Erfahrungen der Mitglieder der waldökologisch-ökonomischen und der waldökologischen Nachhaltigkeit folgende Grundsätze und Empfehlungen erarbeitet:

1. Erhaltung der biologischen Vielfalt von Waldökosystemen
2. Erhaltung der Landschafts- und Kulturlandschaft
3. Erhaltung der Schutz- und Nutzungswertungen
4. Erhaltung der Wirtschaftlichkeit und soziale Rahmenbedingungen für die nachhaltige Waldwirtschaft
5. Erhaltung der Wasserhaushaltsfunktionen
6. Erhaltung der Bodenfruchtbarkeit
7. Erhaltung der Holzproduktion
8. Erhaltung der Erholungs- und Erziehungswertungen
9. Erhaltung der kulturellen Werte
10. Erhaltung der historischen Werte
11. Erhaltung der archaischen Werte
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20. Erhaltung der archaischen Werte

# Activities

- field trips
- workshops
- invitation of experts
- formation & further training
- advisory services
- expert's opinion (PFN, Code forestier)
- position paper
- public relations
- social network (FB)

**PRO SILVA Lëtzebuerg**

**ALTERNATIVEN ZUM KAHLSCHLAG**  
12. Juni 2014 – Rambrouch

**EINLADUNG**

**ASSOCIATION DES FORESTIERS LUXEMBOURGEOIS A.S.B.L.**  
und  
**PRO SILVA Lëtzebuerg**

**EINLADUNG ZUR EXKURSION am 28. Oktober 2011**

**Thema: Wiederholungsflächen nach Virem & Wioble, Waldentwicklung in der Naturwäldle Eigerburger Moor**

Die Stämme des Jahres 1930 am Ende der 1930er Jahre sind ein hervorragendes Beispiel für die Entwicklung der Wälder nach Virem & Wioble. Die Stämme sind ein hervorragendes Beispiel für die Entwicklung der Wälder nach Virem & Wioble. Die Stämme sind ein hervorragendes Beispiel für die Entwicklung der Wälder nach Virem & Wioble.

Die AFL und PRO SILVA Lëtzebuerg laden alle Mitglieder, und Partner, sowie sämtliche Interessierten zum Freitag den 28. Oktober 2011 zu einer Exkursion nach Jüngerthal und Umgebung ein.

Auf der Rückreise finden Sie das Programm zur Exkursion sowie zusätzliche Informationen wie die Anmeldung, Kosten und Sonstiges beifolgt.

Wir hoffen dass das Angebot der Exkursion möglichst viele Mitglieder und Interessierten anspricht und freuen uns auf eine interessante Reise.

Der Vorstand der AFL: die Vorstand von PRO SILVA Lëtzebuerg

**12 UMWELT & NATUR**

**Pro Silva Luxembourg**

**Wald und Wild**  
Ein Blick ins Waldgeschehen

Die Wildschweine sind ein wichtiger Bestandteil der Wälder. Sie spielen eine wichtige Rolle in der Nahrungskette und sind ein wichtiger Bestandteil der Wälder. Die Wildschweine sind ein wichtiger Bestandteil der Wälder. Sie spielen eine wichtige Rolle in der Nahrungskette und sind ein wichtiger Bestandteil der Wälder.

**PRO SILVA Lëtzebuerg**

**Wie viel Biotopholz braucht der Wald?**  
02. Juli 2015 – Müllerthal

**EINLADUNG**



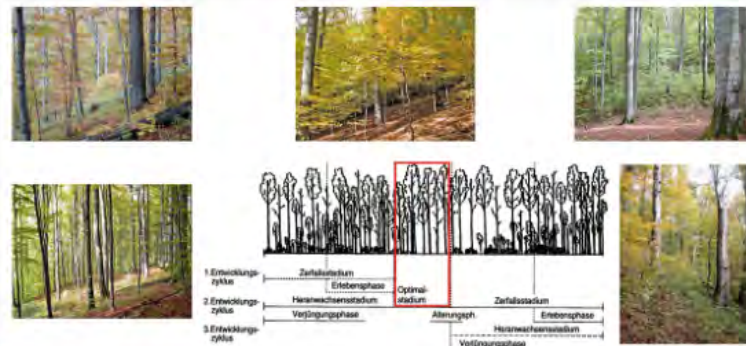
The main country forest forest for sustainable management decision in forest forest in a... (text is partially obscured)

# Continuous Close-to-Nature Forest management

**Pro Silva policy is based on a holistic approach to sustainability, covering the key issues of major importance to present day forest management. A sustainable forest ecosystem is the proper basis of economic sustainability.**

Forests provide 4 categories of benefit to society:

- Conservation of ecosystems
- Protection of soil and climate
- Production of timber and other products
- Recreation, amenity and cultural aspects



**Potential elements of ecosystem functionality:**

- Local and regional diversity of forest types
- Genetic diversity within the local populations of each species, providing the potential for evolutionary development
- Biodiversity of ecological processes
- Local and regional diversity of ecosystems
- Local and regional species richness

**Potential elements of the protective function:**

- Hydrological sustainability of the natural water cycle and its structure
- Retention of water
- Mainstreaming of improvement for carbon storage
- Effective management leads to the production of progressively higher volume and quality of landscape (soil) management carbon

**Potential elements of the productive function:**

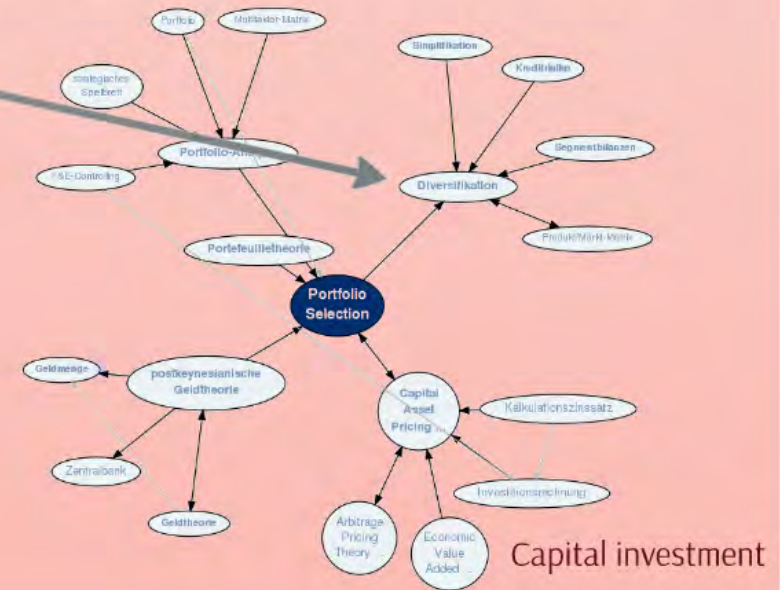
- Mainstreaming of forest fire
- Conservation of diversity of the naturalness of forest ecosystems and timber production
- Mainstreaming of the natural energy potential (fuel) and timber production

**Potential elements of the recreational function:**

- Suitability of forests for quiet and healthy types of physical and mental recreation
- Suitability of forests as part of the landscape (recreational attachment of people to forests and having their own views on the forest)
- Suitability of forests as a source of culture and education

## Essential elements of ecosystem functionality:

- Local and regional diversity of flora and fauna
- Genetic diversity within the local population of each species, providing the potential for evolutionary development
- The occurrence of ecological processes
- Local and regional diversity of ecosystems (spatial and temporal diversity in structure)

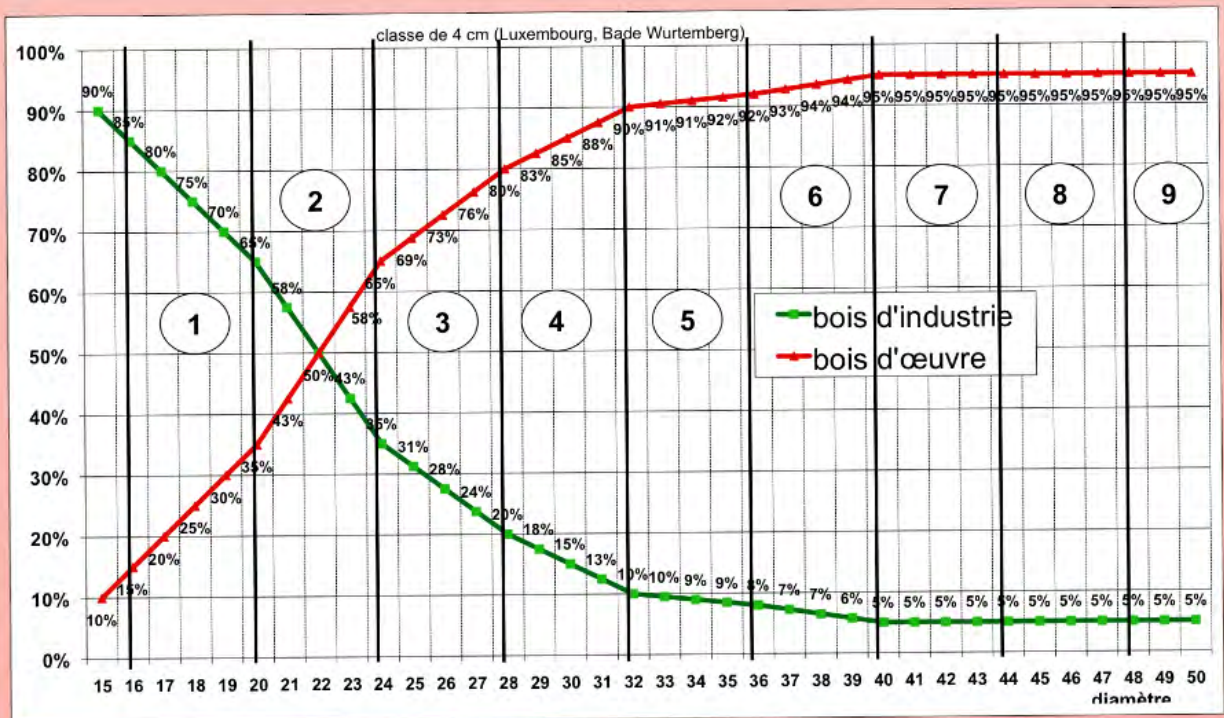


Hundred and twenty meters (400 ft) integrated forest (1)



## Essential elements of the protection function:

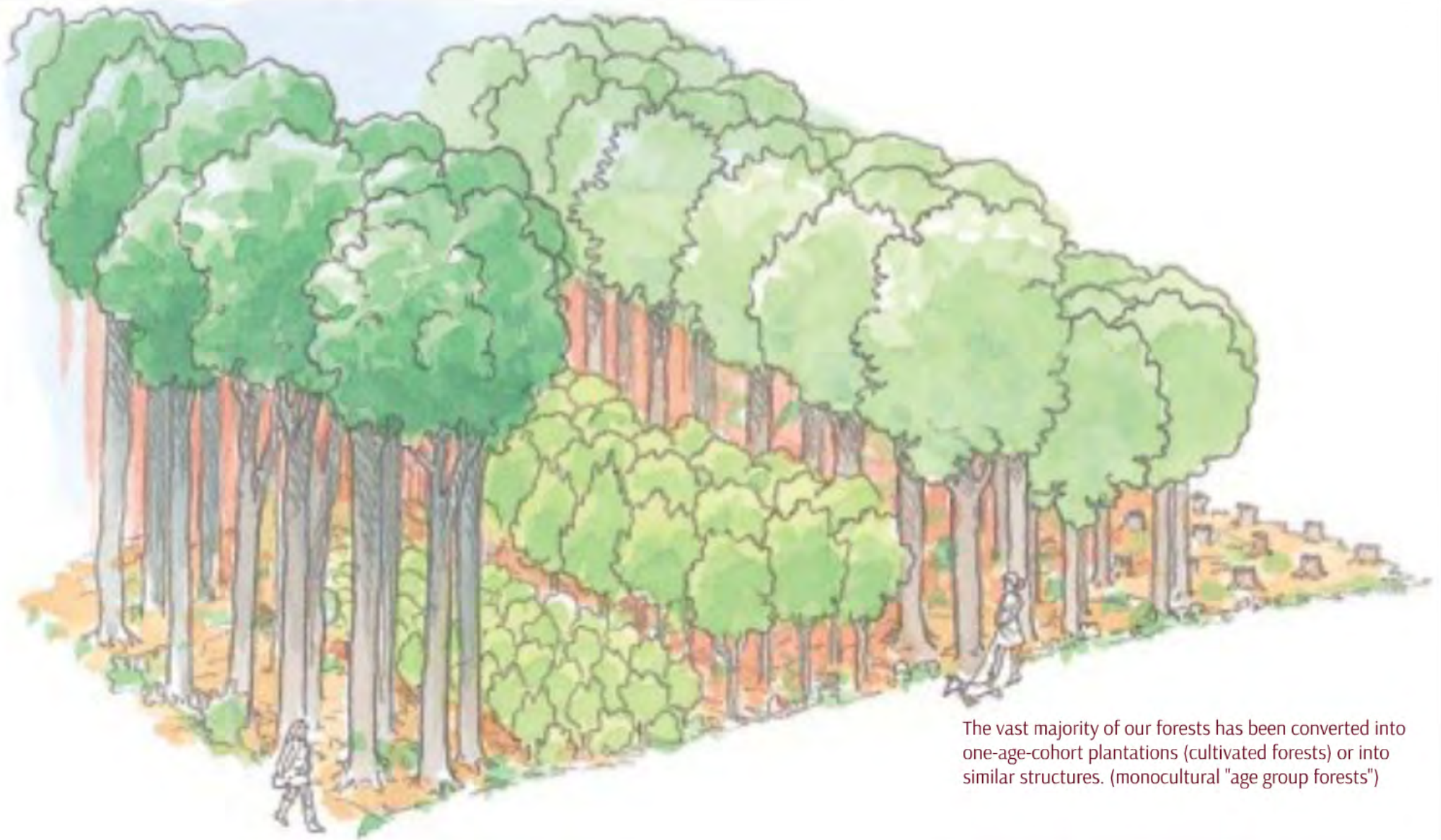
- Protection or restoration of the natural soil fertility and soil structure
- Protection against erosion
- Maintenance and improvement of carbon storage
- ProSilva management leads to the production of a proportionally higher volume of large-dimension timber of high quality and furniture products (storage of carbon)



## Essential elements of the production function:

- Maintenance of the soil fertility
- Guaranteed continuity of the naturalness of forest ecosystems and timber production
- Maintenance of the natural energy potential and mineral cycles





The vast majority of our forests has been converted into one-age-cohort plantations (cultivated forests) or into similar structures. (monocultural "age group forests")



## Essential elements of the recreational function\*:

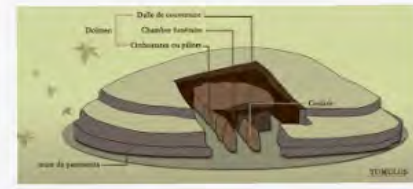
- Suitability of forests for quiet, eco-friendly forms of physical and mental recreation
- Suitability of forests as part of the traditional emotional attachment of people to forests and nature (forests of secrets, myths, fairy tales)
- Suitability of forests as a custodian of culture traditions















*General Thomas Viper Forest. 1906*



charcoal pile

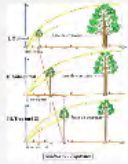






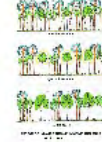
**\*ProSilva is convinced that the recreational function generally stems automatically from the type of forest management which is proposed.**





### Some examples of ProSilva approaches

- Continuous forest cover (instead "age group forests" & clearcut)
- Full use of natural dynamics forest processes
- Increase forest stability and reduce production risks through stabilisation of single trees
- Paying attention to the function of every single tree in tending and harvesting
- Abolition of rotation age as the instrument for determining when a tree should be cut
- Use of natural stem number reduction



### Challenges to meet

- Wildlife species population densities in balance with the forest
- Commercialization of large and higher quality timber
- Biomass heating systems
- Conflicting use (big ugly tree / habitat tree)
- Professional use of the Harvester

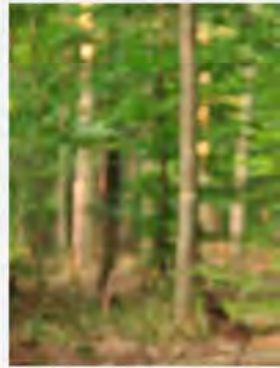
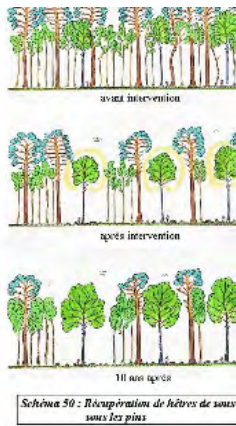
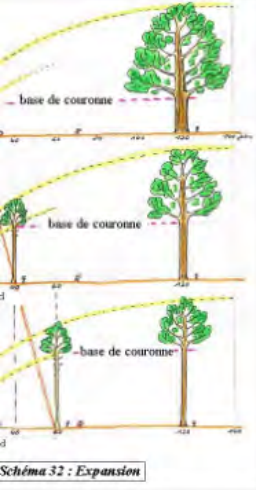


## Practical application



# Some examples of ProSilva approaches

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- Professional use of the Harvester





Look deep into nature, and then you will understand everything better.

Albert Einstein



Thank you for  
your attention ...

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